

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700303

## 1. Project Description

### A. Statement of GO Activity

Acquisition of three vehicles and appropriate utility attachments for maintenance purposes, along with appropriate maintenance, repair, fuel, licensing, permitting, liability and workers compensation insurance, and storage costs. The purpose of the vehicles, in cooperation with El Dorado County, is to:

- Safely evacuate and remove human waste from approved vault toilet facilities on the Rubicon Trail.
- Construct trail features for the purpose of erosion control and maintenance on the Rubicon Trail.
- Move native material within the trail corridor for the purpose of erosion control and maintenance on the Rubicon Trail.
- Transport trail maintenance material to otherwise inaccessible areas of the Rubicon Trail.

Beyond driving along the trail for toilet evacuation purposes, any projects that these vehicles will be used to support will have their own CEQA analysis and planning, if appropriate.

### B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The Rubicon Trail enjoys approximately 25,000 visitor days per year. Currently, the trail has three approved vault waterless toilets at the three trailheads (Wentworth Springs Campground, Loon Lake, and Tahoe staging area in Tahoma) that are maintained under contract from accessible roads. El Dorado County has relied on educating users and providing WAG (Waste Absorbent Gel) Bags for users. Though this effort appears to have improved conditions, the County would like to place more vault toilets in remote locations along the trail. The difficulty with doing this is the ability to maintain and pump those toilet vaults. The County has looked to a partnership with the Rubicon Trail Foundation to perform this service and maintenance function.

The toilet maintenance vehicle and related costs will benefit OHV by:

1. Improving the environment in and around the Rubicon Trail by providing the maintenance and service necessary for vault toilets in remote locations, thus reducing the risk of contamination by human waste of camping areas and streams/lakes adjacent to the trail.
2. Reducing human waste pollution in the areas adjacent to the trail, thus satisfying water quality regulations and keeping the trail open and those OHV opportunities available.
3. Allowing use of the trail to continue at current or increased levels, while reducing impacts to the environment in the areas adjacent to the trail, thus potentially increasing OHV user opportunities.

The Rubicon Trail has recently undergone a change of oversight within El Dorado County. Due to budget constraints, responsibility for the trail has been moved from the County Parks and Recreation Department to the Department of Transportation. As part of this, an assessment of the trail has been completed. This assessment identified 87 water bars and 32 rock fords that are in need of construction or maintenance. Historically, construction has been done on the trail in accessible locations by the County using mechanized equipment. Remote areas of the trail have been maintained using volunteer hand crews with hand tools and by use of dynamite by informal trail user groups.

The acquisition of mechanized road building equipment will benefit OHV by:

1. Allowing more immediate and more accurate installation of erosion mitigation features, reducing erosion and the risk of sedimentation sooner than could otherwise be accomplished, improving the environment, keeping the trail open and those OHV opportunities available.
2. Preventing damage to the trail improves the safety of the trail, thus improving the quality of the experience for OHV users.

3. Preventing damage to the trail improves the safety of the trail, thus reducing liability to the trail user and the County.
4. Improved erosion control and trail quality allows for increased visitor days without degradation of the trail, thus increasing user OHV opportunities.

### C. Size of the Project

The Rubicon Trail 4-wheel drive route extends from Georgetown (at State Highway 193 in El Dorado County) to Lake Tahoe (near Tahoma in Placer County) for a total distance of approximately 22 miles. The unmaintained portion of the trail in El Dorado County extends from the Wentworth Springs Campground (western limit) and Loon Lake (southern limit) to the Placer County Line (northeastern limit) is about 12 miles long and winds through the trees and rugged granite common to the area. Parts of the trail also pass through the Eldorado National Forest and portions of private lands.

### D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The Rubicon Trail is located in the California High Sierra, due west of Lake Tahoe, approximately 80 miles east of Sacramento, and 35 miles east of Placerville. This world-renowned 4-wheel drive route leads from Georgetown (at State Highway 193 in El Dorado County) to Lake Tahoe (near Tahoma in Placer County) for a total distance of approximately 22 miles. The unmaintained portion of the trail in El Dorado County extends from the Wentworth Springs Campground (western limit) and Loon Lake (southern limit) to the Placer County Line (northeastern limit) is about 12 miles long and winds through the trees and rugged granite common to the area. Parts of the trail pass through the Eldorado National Forest and portions of private lands.

Elevations run from approximately 5400 to over 7,000 feet (approximately 1,646 meters to over 2,134 meters). The section of road from Georgetown to Wentworth Springs (also known as the McKinney-Rubicon Springs Road) is a maintained road, while the off-highway vehicle (OHV) trail begins near Wentworth Springs Campground. There is an additional trailhead at Loon Lake that ties into the trail just south of the Ellis Creek crossing. Most visitors begin the run from either Wentworth Springs Campground or Loon Lake, which are accessible off U.S. Highway 50. The trail from the Wentworth Springs trailhead starts with an uphill climb. Once at the top, the trail levels out to a challenging drive to Ellis Creek. From Ellis Creek, the trail winds through the trees and rugged granite on its way to Walker Hill. From Walker Hill, the trail winds over granite to the north of Spider Lake and descends southward to Buck Island Lake. The trail then climbs east at the edge of the Desolation Wilderness area and then drops due north into Rubicon Springs. The trail continues east into Placer County and ends at Tahoma.

Existing OHV opportunities in and around the proposed Project Area attract both street legal and "green sticker" off-road motor vehicles. As a result, users travel the trail on and in a wide range of all-terrain vehicles, including dirt bikes, ATVs and a variety of 4-wheel drive vehicles, from street-legal SUVs to vehicles built for the sole purpose of driving the trail. Because of its difficulty, the trail is recommended for short wheelbase vehicles with all skid plates in place.

## 2. Rerouting Requirements

### Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

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**1. Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

Attachments:

[Area Map](#)

**2. Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

**3 Project-Specific Maps**

**4. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: Rubicon Trail Foundation  
Application: Ground Operations

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	Rubicon Trail Foundation		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Ground Operations	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>Acquisition of three vehicles and appropriate utility attachments for maintenance purposes, along with appropriate maintenance, repair, fuel, licensing, permitting, liability and workers compensation insurance, and storage costs. The purpose of the vehicles, in cooperation with El Dorado County, is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safely evacuate and remove human waste from approved vault toilet facilities on the Rubicon Trail.</li> <li>- Construct trail features for the purpose of erosion control and maintenance on the Rubicon Trail.</li> <li>- Move native material within the trail corridor for the purpose of erosion control and maintenance on the Rubicon Trail.</li> <li>- Transport trail maintenance material to otherwise inaccessible areas of the Rubicon Trail.</li> </ul> <p>Beyond driving along the trail for toilet evacuation purposes, any projects that these vehicles will be used to support will have their own CEQA analysis and planning, if appropriate.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Seasonal Maintenance Worker Notes : Volunteer hours	930.000	30.000	HRS	0.00	27,900.00	27,900.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
	Other-Liability Insurance	1.000	1000.000	YR	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Other-Workers Comp Insurance	1.000	2100.000	YR	2,100.00	0.00	2,100.00
	<b>Total for Contracts</b>				3,100.00	0.00	3,100.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: Rubicon Trail Foundation  
Application: Ground Operations

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Janitorial	1.000	1000.000	PKG	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Other-Fuel	560.000	2.600	EA	1,456.00	0.00	1,456.00
	Other-Permits and licensing	1.000	1420.000	EA	1,420.00	0.00	1,420.00
	Other-Onsite storage	1000.000	2.000	YR	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Annual Maintenance	3.000	2000.000	YR	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Use Expenses</b>				10,876.00	0.00	10,876.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-Unimog 416 vehicle	1.000	30000.000	EA	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
	Other-Satellite MD400 service module	1.000	9427.000	EA	9,427.00	0.00	9,427.00
	Other-Unimog CEE Tractor	2.000	8000.000	EA	16,000.00	0.00	16,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Purchases</b>				55,427.00	0.00	55,427.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
	Administrative Costs-Staff time	170.000	46.000	HRS	7,820.00	0.00	7,820.00
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				78,223.00	27,900.00	106,123.00
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				78,223.00	27,900.00	106,123.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>78,223.00</b>	<b>27,900.00</b>	<b>106,123.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: Rubicon Trail Foundation  
Application: Ground Operations

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	0.00	27,900.00	27,900.00	
2	Contracts	3,100.00	0.00	3,100.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	10,876.00	0.00	10,876.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	55,427.00	0.00	55,427.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	7,820.00	0.00	7,820.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		78,223.00	27,900.00	106,123.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		78,223.00	27,900.00	106,123.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>78,223.00</b>	<b>27,900.00</b>	<b>106,123.00</b>	

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**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

This grant will be used to acquire, repair, equip, fuel, license, insure, maintain, and store vehicles/attachments. Beyond driving along the trail for toilet evacuation purposes, any projects that these vehicles will be used to support will have their own CEQA analysis and planning, if appropriate. As an example, El Dorado County DOT may request RTF to use these vehicles to maintain the existing roadway or drainage features (remember that Rubicon trail is formally recognized as a public highway).

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

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**1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)**

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)  
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)  
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)  
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

**2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.**

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)  
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)  
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)  
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)  
☐ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Rubicon Trail is currently under scrutiny by both the El Dorado National Forest and the Central Valley Water Quality Board. Both sanitary improvement and trail maintenance (with erosion controls) are specific areas in which these agencies have shown interest. Failure to address sanitary improvement and trail maintenance could result in trail restriction or closure and loss of OHV opportunity. Requested equipment will be used to prevent off trail travel minimizing negative impacts to cltural sites, damages to sensitive habitat and/or potential trespass.

**3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.**

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 12

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)  
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)  
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)  
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)  
☐ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Maintains trail or road tread by providing equipment to install erosion control features in cooperation with El Dorado County DOT

Vehicles may be used to transport materials on the trail and for installation of educational signage and trailside barriers.

Because Rubicon Trail is used by 4x4's, ATV's, side by sides, motorcycles, and hikers, trail and sanitary maintenance by default supports multiple use.

**4. Public Input - Q 4.**

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2



(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

- 1) Project scope and intent discussed at February 2009 Rubicon Oversight Committee meeting
- 2) Multiple conference calls and meetings with Rubicon Trail Partnership, Rubicon Soda Springs Partnership, and El Dorado County Department of Transportation

#### 5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points)
- ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
- ☐ 1 (1 point)
- ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

El Dorado County, Friends of the Rubicon, Rubicon Trail Partnership Inc., Rubicon Trail Patrol, Placer County, Eldorado National Forest, Tahoe National Forest, Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Jeepers Jamboree

#### 6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 5

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
- ☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- ☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
- ☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
- ☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Protects water quality by:

- 1) Improving sanitation, preventing human waste from entering the water supply and
- 2) Reducing erosion, preventing siltation of nearby streams and lakes

Provides maintenance of sanitary facilities (vault toilets).

Vehicles may be used to transport materials on the trail and for installation of educational signage and trailside barriers to prevent off trail travel.

#### 7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 2

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☐ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)

- ☐ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [CEE trucks (military surplus)]

**8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.**

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Applicant plans to use biodiesel fuel and green grease or oil products where applicable.

**9. Motorized Access - Q 9.**

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

☒ Camping

☐ Birding

☒ Hiking

☐ Equestrian trails

☒ Fishing

☐ Rock Climbing

☐ Other (Specify)